

YOUR RESPONSE TO NURSING PAPERS

IN APRIL, approximately 1000 copies of the first issue of *Nursing Papers* were distributed to the university schools and to other interested groups of nurses. The response to the journal as a forum for research and for the development of ideas and plans in nursing has been splendid. Many persons described the need for such presentations and for the subsequent dialogue among nurses with similar interests. Such great support has made us more courageous and at the same time resolute to continue our venture. My thanks to each of you for your good wishes and for your affirmation of *Nursing Papers* as one means of promoting our development, particularly in the university schools and their related community agencies.

Many persons have been generous in supporting *Nursing Papers* through personal contributions, while others have forwarded or have requested their organizations to forward the exact amount to cover individual copies.

Expenses for 1000 copies, April Issue, 1969	\$600.00
Received from 47 individual and group contributions . .	207.85
Balance	\$393.15

With the cost of the present issue, we shall be approximately \$1000 out-of-pocket.

The problem of finances must be attacked and it seems likely that we shall set up a subscription procedure in business-like fashion. However, a small select group, such as forty-seven persons taking out

medium-priced subscriptions, will not underwrite the development of a journal of the character and calibre which our university schools of nursing are demanding. If we need a forum designed for the small percent of nurses whose work is concerned with the future of our profession, — either in teaching, in the development of nursing services, in research, or in other ways, — could we undertake to finance the project through individual and school contributions at least for the time being? What other sources of revenue might be available in the future? I am approaching one of the publishing houses hoping to gain financial assistance on a permanent basis. Certainly, we are the major group purchasing or initiating the purchase of texts and reference books in the field of nursing. I feel sure we can count on reciprocal support from some of the publishers at a time when we require a means of continued communication to strengthen our own development. One might venture to predict valuable outcomes if our paper succeeds, — a greater number of Canadian authors in the nursing field! What suggestions do you have for long-term finances as well as for sources of revenue to sustain our (all of us) venture in 1969? We are looking to the Alumnae of our School at this time both for temporary backing and for volunteers to undertake the subscription service and distribution.

I would like to describe once again the idea behind the publication of *Nursing Papers*. We are seeking articles particularly from the faculty of university schools which describe a research study or the development of an idea or plan in nursing, in teaching, or in the provision of nursing services. It is important that the design of the study and its findings as well as the rationale of an argument or plan be presented so that readers will understand each part, the development, and the relation of one idea to another. We want readers to be challenged and to be critical in their response. Let us hear about your research concerns and endeavors, about the approaches you use in the teaching of nursing, about the new patterns of staffing you are trying, or about your plan to improve the quality of nursing care. We are in desperate need of articles.

Although all respondents seemed to enjoy the two articles in the April issue of *Nursing Papers*, we did not receive real assessment or appraisal of either paper. As the researcher responsible for evaluating the nursing program at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto, I was hoping for responses to the design described in that issue. Many are concerned with evaluating the new educational programs across Canada and I believe each of us approaches the task with a different emphasis and study plan. What are other provinces such as Quebec,

Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia doing to evaluate their new educational programs? Here is an opportunity for us to explore and to discuss problems in evaluative research and to compare and contrast various methods. It would benefit all of us if we could share ideas and plans in this journal.

I think you will be challenged by the article on "Professions and Unions" in this issue of *Nursing Papers*; most of us have such definite ideas and opinions on the subject. Joan Gilchrist, the author, is presently completing requirements for the Ph.D. in Sociology at McGill University while working part-time on our staff. How do *you* view the future of our profession in relation to our bargaining and negotiating function?

Through the years, our staff has begun to accumulate valuable insights into the teaching of nursing in the Basic Nursing program, to identify the critical dimensions of nursing to be learned, and to translate such knowledge into tentative prescriptions for both teaching and curriculum structure. The first of such articles was presented in the April issue of *Nursing Papers*. Margaret Hooton, an Assistant Professor of Nursing with a M.Sc.(A) from McGill, continues in a similar fashion by describing the teaching of nursing in the care of patients with chronic illness. What do you think of the ideas in these two articles on the teaching of nursing? What notions or viewpoints have you arrived at in your program?

M. A.